

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 was objected to based upon minor informalities. Claim 1 has been amended to address the objections. This amendment also addresses the objections to claims 3, 7-12, and 25-27.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 14, 16-18, 22 and 30-32 are indicated as allowed. In addition, claims 12, 25, 26, and 29 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. This reply amends the claims to place the application in condition for allowance. Applicants request entry of the amendment pursuant to MPEP 712.14.

Claim 1 is amended herein to address the objections in the Office Action. Further, claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent claim 12, indicated as allowable, and intervening claims 11, 10, 9, 8, and 7. Hence, claim 1 is allowable and in condition for allowance. Dependent claims 3, 25, 26, and 27 depend ultimately from claim 1 and are allowable at least by virtue of this dependence.

Claim 14 was indicated as allowable. Dependent claims 16, 17, 18, and 22 each depend ultimately from claim 14 and are allowable at least by virtue of this dependence.

Independent claim 24 is canceled.

Independent claim 28 is amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent claim 29, indicated as allowable. Hence, claim 28 is allowable and in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 30 and dependent claims 31-32 were indicated as allowable.

CONCLUSION

Thus, all pending claims are allowable and this application is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and prompt issuance of this application. Should any issue remain that prevents immediate issuance of the application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney to discuss the unresolved issue.

Respectfully Submitted,
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